

Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, D. C. 20515

Anna G. Eshoo Fourteenth District California

January 19, 2011

The Honorable Julius Genachowski, Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

It is my understanding that the Commission is currently reviewing a waiver request by LightSquared L.L.C., which would allow the company to build a nationwide terrestrial-based, wireless broadband network. While I applaud the Commission's efforts to expand the deployment of wireless broadband, it should not be done at the expense of national and homeland security, public safety and the broader economy.

The concerns that have been raised are serious ones, regarding the proposal's potential to cause harmful interference to Global Positioning System (GPS) users in urban areas around the country. This position was supported by NTIA Administrator Lawrence Strickling, who indicated in a letter to you last week that several agencies including the Departments of Defense, Transportation and Homeland Security are concerned about the potential for interference.

Today, millions of users depend on GPS. GPS technology can be found everywhere from cell phones and personal navigation devices, to military operations, aviation, and networks providing earthquake monitoring, emergency services, and automated highway construction. With such broad use, any proposal, which in effect reallocates spectrum, should be done cautiously and with a full public record from all affected stakeholders.

Before proceeding with further action on LightSquared's waiver request, I implore the Commission to expeditiously conduct a technical analysis and resolve any interference concerns. Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter, and I look forward to your timely response.

Most gratefully,

Anna G. Eshoo Member of Congress

cc:

Commissioner Michael J. Copps Commissioner Robert M. McDowell Commissioner Mignon Clyburn Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION



September 8, 2011

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI

The Honorable Anna G. Eshoo Ranking Member Subcommittee on Communications and Technology Committee on Energy and Commerce U.S. House of Representatives 2322 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Eshoo:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Commission's work with respect to LightSquared's proposed operation in the MSS L-Band. The Commission remains committed to identifying opportunities to make additional spectrum available for mobile broadband to secure the Nation's leadership in the mobile space, spur further innovation, job creation, and economic growth, and enhance our overall global competitiveness.

As I have stated previously to Congress, the Commission will not permit LightSquared to begin commercial service without first resolving concerns about potential widespread harmful interference to GPS devices.

The FCC has proceeded in an open, thorough, and fair way, and we will continue to operate in this manner. On June 30, 2011, the Commission issued a Public Notice inviting comment on the final report of the technical working group established as a condition of the January Waiver Order. The Commission, in consultation with NTIA, has been reviewing the report's findings and established a public comment cycle to give parties further opportunities to present their views on LightSquared's revised proposal to operate only on the lower portion of its spectrum and on the report. The public comment cycle closed on August 15, 2011. I assure you that we will consider thoroughly all submissions received in response to the Public Notice.

Finding additional spectrum for innovative wireless services has been the source of tremendous growth for our country, and its potential to create jobs and drive the economy for the foreseeable future is substantial. I look forward to working with you and your colleagues to ensure that we use this precious resource wisely, and that we maximize the economic, public safety and national security potential it affords us.

Sincerely,

Julius Genachowski